GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1830
ANSWERED ON:29.11.2002
RESTRICTIONS ON FREE TRADE BY FOREIGN COUNTRIES
NAWAL KISHORE RAI;RAMJI LAL SUMAN

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

:

(a) whether there are several types of restrictions on free trade in different countries which are likely to continue till 2005;

(b) if so, the names of the countries among them which are the members of World Trade Organisation;

(c) the items on which there are import and export restrictions in these countries; and

(d) the impact of these restrictions on Indian trade?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY(SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY)

(a) to (d) :All countries in the world, including WTO Members, maintain some form of restrictions on free trade, these include tariff restrictions and/or non-tariff restrictions. There is no time limit on the retention of all of these restrictions, i.e., all of them are not required to be removed by 2005. However, some non-tariff restrictions like quotas on textile imports which are still maintained by developed countries are required to be removed with effect from 01.01.2005.

Restrictions faced by Indian exporters are monitored to examine the legitimacy of the same. As and when they are found to adversely affect India`s exports unduly, they are taken up with the concerned country. Some of these restrictions will also be taken up in the ongoing negotiations in WTO under the Doha Work Programme.